

NATIONAL HONEY REPORT



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HONEY MARKET FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 2003
IN VOLUMES OF 10,000 POUNDS OR GREATER UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED
- REPORT INCLUDES BOTH NEW AND OLD CROP HONEY -

Prices paid to beekeepers for extracted, unprocessed honey in major producing states by packers, handlers & other large users, cents per pound, f.o.b. or delivered nearby, containers exchanged or returned, prompt delivery & payment unless otherwise stated.

CALIFORNIA	- Mixed Flowers, light amber, \$1.20
	- Orange, white, \$1.45
<u>ALL NEW CROP</u>	- Sage, white, \$1.40 (small lot)
	- Sage, white, \$1.50 - 1.54
FLORIDA	- Orange Blossom, white & extra light amber, \$1.45 - 1.50
	- Gallberry, white & extra light amber, \$1.40 - 1.45
<u>ALL NEW CROP</u>	- Saw Palmetto, white & extra light amber, \$1.45
	- Saw Palmetto, light amber, \$1.35 - 1.40
	- Tupelo, white, \$1.55
	- Wildflower, extra light amber, \$1.35
	- Wildflower, light amber, \$1.35 - 1.40
	- Cut Comb, Gallberry, \$1.50
LOUISIANA	- Floral Not Reported, extra light amber, \$1.44
MONTANA	- Alfalfa, white, \$1.50
NORTH DAKOTA	- Clover, white, \$1.50
OREGON	- Floral Not Reported, white, \$1.55
	- Floral Not Reported, light amber, \$1.40
SOUTH DAKOTA	- Clover, white, \$1.40
	- Clover, light amber, \$1.40
WISCONSIN	- Clover, white, \$1.55 - 1.60

Prices paid to Canadian beekeepers for unprocessed bulk honey by packers & importers in U.S. currency, f.o.b. shipping point, containers included unless otherwise stated. Duty & crossing charges extra. Cents per pound.

ALBERTA - Clover, water white, \$1.50 (delivered to US)

Prices paid to importers for bulk honey, duty paid, containers included, cents per pound ex-dock or point of entry unless otherwise stated.

EAST COAST.....	ARGENTINA	- Clover, white,	\$1.60
	BRAZIL	- Mixed Flowers, light amber,	\$1.25
	INDIA	- Mixed Flowers, light amber,	\$1.32
GULF COAST.....	URUGUAY	- Mixed Flowers, white,	\$1.55
WEST COAST.....	BRAZIL	- Mixed Flowers, amber,	\$1.40
	CHILE	- Mixed Flowers, extra light amber,	\$1.35
	CHINA	- Mixed Flowers, white,	\$1.15
	MEXICO	- Mixed Flowers, white,	\$1.50
		- Mixed Flowers, light amber,	\$1.20 - 1.40

COLONY, HONEY PLANT & MARKET CONDITIONS DURING JUNE, 2003

APPALACHIAN DISTRICT – (MD, PA, VA, WV) AAA

June began as repeat of May with unusually cool, damp weather; however, by the end of the month the seasonable hot, humid, sunny days of summer had arrived. Over a 51 day period beginning in May through mid-June there were only 2 days filled completely with sunshine. This encouraged bloom in many plants; however, nectar has been full of water resulting in a decline in honey production. May precipitation set record levels and June came close. June nectar sources are clover, melons, cucurbits, and thistle. Sourwood bloom is beginning. Colony numbers have increased, which is good after the heavy losses experienced after the winter. Swarming is reported to be variable, depending on the area of the District. Disease and pest problems are at a minimum. Of the two locations where the hive beetles have been reported, there has been no further spread to date. Although the damp conditions make spread favorable, the beetles are contained to those areas and are being closely monitored.

CALIFORNIA AAA

Like the rest of the western United States, California began June with many areas recording temperatures in the 100's especially in the deserts and central valleys. Temperatures cooled the week of June 9th because of a high pressure system that dropped temperatures in many areas and brought light precipitation to the northern coast. Conditions again slightly across the State the next week and isolated thunderstorms were frequent along the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Temperatures over 100 degrees were common the last week of June. Consecutive daily-records were set in San Francisco on the 26th and 27th when they reached 96 & 97 degrees. No significant precipitation was reported. The warm and dry conditions accelerated crop development after a spring that was wetter and cooler than normal, especially in Northern California.

CALIFORNIA continued...

Bees are reported to be in good condition as they worked on this year's honey crop. Some valleys, especially in Southern California, received occasional rainshowers which produced a very good sage crop. Other bees were moved into vegetable, melon and alfalfa seed fields for pollination. Others were sitting near areas where the blue curl and star thistle were blooming.

Packers were beginning to purchase new crop honey but are finding some varieties are running a little later than normal. Some reported they would purchase more but are finding packers from out-of-state are buying California honey at slightly higher prices.

IDAHO AAA

The bees are in good condition. The State received some moisture during the month along with a short period of cold, windy weather. The main source of nectar for the month was clover and alfalfa. Other sources included Purple Lufstrife, wild and yard flowers. Pollen was collected from Dandelions early in the month and Buck brush later. Some apiarists are feeding some packages to bees to bring up to speed. There was some disappointment with what the bees were able to gather but beekeepers are trying to remain optimistic for July. Most apiarists plan to start extracting honey in July. There doesn't appear to be any unusual problems with mites or parasites.

ILLINOIS AAA

Dryer than normal conditions continued in the northern sections of the state early in the month. Central and southern sections however reported continued heavy and frequent rains that had hampered spring crop planting and slower than normal plant growth. Most of the state reported temperatures in the mid-80's in the central and northern sections while the southern section experience some low 90's.

Floral sources for the month were butterfly bush, day lilies, sweet clover and Alsak clover. Most colonies were reported in good condition as beekeepers removed supers and spring extraction activities began.

Retail honey sales were reported moderate. Bulk honey movement was also reported moderate.

INDIANA AAA

Warmer than normal temperatures in the mid-90s, with high humidity dominated the southern region the last of the month. Many spring storms and heavy rain delayed planting of spring crops, hampered beekeepers movement of hives into vegetable fields, and had delayed extraction of honey in central and southern Indiana. The northern region had cool temperatures and normal rainfall during the same period.

Beekeepers reported some mite and beetle problems in colonies and some migrate hives were stopped and denied entry by state inspectors who found the pests infestation. Some weakness of colonies was still being reported by inspectors. . Most central and southern sections had finished or were finishing extraction of the spring honey flow. Most of the honey was reported excellent due to the floral sources good spring growth. Main floral sources were lavender, vetch, honeysuckle and magnolia

Beekeepers reported honey and wax demand was good and movement of bulk honey was moderate.

MISSOURI, IOWA AND EASTERN KANSAS AAA

Precipitation was above normal in most of Missouri except for Springfield which was just slightly below normal. The St. Louis area recorded 12.36 inches of rain which was 8.6 inches above normal. The other weather station in Missouri recorded less than 2 inches above average. Iowa precipitation ranged from just slightly below average to slightly above average for the month; Sioux Falls 0.44 inches above average to Des Moines 1.55 inches below normal. Temperatures averaged slightly below normal in the area.

Beekeepers were starting to move hives from tree pollination to clover production areas and to control swarming. There were bees in the fields for melon pollination in Southeast Missouri & Northeast Arkansas.

Honey flow from white Dutch clover & sweet clover was mixed, depending on location. Some areas had a number of cloudy days with scattered showers which slowed production, in drier areas that have recovered from last years drought production should be fairly good. More nectar than normal should have been gathered from alfalfa due to harvest delays of the first cutting of hay. Kansas was dryer than normal until early June then rain came which have delayed wheat harvest to some extent. Bees are working white sweet clover Interstate 70 and to the south and yellow sweet clover to the north, depending on how far north the bees are into Iowa.

MONTANA AAA

The month began with abundant rainshowers in most areas with some locations in the northeast reporting as much as 1.50 – 2” during the week. Topsoil moisture, the beginning of June, was 73% adequate, 14% more than last year. Temperatures were below normal the 2nd week of June, accompanied by showers and thunderstorms. Summer arrived the week of June 15th. Record highs included 97 degrees in Missoula and 93 degrees in Great Falls on the 18th. The month ended with temperatures as much as 10 degrees below normal. On the 23rd, Butte set a record low of 28 degrees which slowed the development of some crops. Despite the frequent rainfall, topsoil moisture ended the month at 62% of normal which is still 6% above the 5-year average.

The moisture received during June was very beneficial for the bees as they are reported to be in very good condition. Producers have already begun to extract their spring honey flow which is a little ahead of last year. Bees are currently sitting along rivers where they are working sweet clover and miscellaneous wildflowers. Other colonies are set near irrigated crops such as alfalfa.

NORTH CAROLINA AAA

April showers have continued all the way through the month of June in the state of North Carolina. Much rain has been received during the month, along with some cooler than normal temperatures. This has created a problem for many farmers in the state with crop production. The Piedmont has finished with the blueberries and it is still too early to report the results of the sourwood flow. It is expected to be below normal. The mountain areas are in the middle of the sourwood production and looks a little more promising. Some beekeepers have moved their hives to the mountain areas for the sour wood in hopes to recoup some of their losses in the the Piedmont. However, pollination contracts remain stable in the state.

Beekeepers continue to monitor their hives for mites. Many counties remain under quarantine due to the Small Hive Beetles, restricting movement of colonies due to this problem.

OREGON AAA

Very warm and dry conditions carried over from May into the first week of June. On the 4th, Portland posted its first of three consecutive daily highs of 91, 96 and 98 degrees. By the end of the week, the Dalles also reported 98 and 99 degrees. Areas in the southwest had highs of 100 degrees but also received over 2" of rain. Temperatures dropped to near normal levels the second week in June. On the 8th, Portland only reached 79 degrees, ending its longest streak of 90 degree heat since 1992. Parts of the south-central part of the state received some rain but the rest of Oregon was beginning to dry out and irrigation was started earlier than usual. The hot and dry weather returned through the end of the month with little to no precipitation reported. More than half-dozen locations reported daily-record highs on the 16th with some rising above 100 degrees.

Beekeepers reported their bees are in very good condition and making a good honey crop. In some locations, they needed to add supers. Bees were removed from the cranberries and blackberries as their bloom ended and were moved into the red clover, cucumber, parsley, carrot and onion seed crops.

UTAH AAA

The bees are in good condition. Some hives are still being moved around quite a bit. Moisture in June was beneficial, however, more moisture is needed in July or the outlook in honey production could be grim. The main source of nectar is alfalfa and clover. There was some pollen collection from Dandelions earlier in the month. The apiarists are planning to start extracting honey in July. There doesn't appear to be any unusual problems with mites or parasites.

WASHINGTON AAA

Summer arrived the first of July across the state with record highs even being set in Western Washington as Olympia rose to 93 degrees on the 4th. No precipitation fell in any areas. The hot and dry conditions continued through the 14th in Eastern Washington with daily-record highs on the 8th of 95 degrees in Kennewick and 91 in Wenatchee. Grand Coulee Dam also set a record on the 14th when they reported 92 degrees. During the same time, Western Washington cooled slightly but very little precipitation was recorded. The last two weeks in June, temperatures cooled slightly in some areas and most of Western Washington reported at least a little rain. Hot temperatures and dry conditions ended the month with daytime highs mostly in the 90's in Central and Eastern Washington and in the 80's to low 90's west of the Cascades. Skagit County, in Western Washington, received only .04" of rain during June. This is 3" below their 40-year normal.

Bees are reported to be in good condition. In Western Washington, they were still pollinating red raspberries and blackberries in irrigated fields. Most bees in Central and Eastern Washington were sitting along rivers and near irrigated crops. A lot of the state's bees, especially from Eastern Washington, were taken to North and South Dakota during June. Much needed rain fell during the month in those states and producers are hoping for a good honey flow this year.

WISCONSIN AAA

The month of June, temperatures remained cooler than normal over most of the state. The last of the month, temperatures had risen to the high 80's to low 90's over some of the state. Beekeepers were later than usual removing filled supers due to unfavorable weather conditions. Beekeepers reported honey quality was good due to an excellent spring flow. State inspectors reported many of the states hives were still showing weakness due to overwintering losses. The end of the month, beekeeping activity included moving hives into vegetable fields.

Retail honey sales were good and bulk movement was also good.

U. S. EXPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY OF DESTINATION, QUANTITY & VALUE

	<u>A P R I L</u>	<u>2 0 0 3</u>	<u>Y E A R T O D A T E 2 0 0 3</u>	
	QUANTITY	VALUE	QUANTITY	VALUE
	Kilograms	Dollars	Kilograms	Dollars
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COMB HONEY & HONEY PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE				
Mexico	---	---	3,110	3,433
Northern Antilles	---	---	2,478	8,761
United Kingdom	---	---	816	3,000
Netherlands	---	---	1,009	3,665
Germany	---	---	1,824	5,507
Israel	3,103	10,000	3,103	10,000
Kuwait	39,614	90,998	124,871	240,326
Saudi Arabia	17,757	29,000	97,532	156,353
Arab Emirates	---	---	115,170	151,070
Malaysia	---	---	7,385	9,686
Philippines	---	---	7,666	20,360
China	---	---	826	2,860
Korean Republic	---	---	113,668	149,100
Hong Kong	1,524	6,456	5,017	21,851
Taiwan	---	---	3,035	8,879
Japan	4,026	5,280	40,454	54,021
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TOTAL	66,024	141,734	527,964	848,872
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HONEY, NATURAL, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED ----- DOMESTIC MERCHANDISE				
Canada	44,696	76,726	191,206	382,242
Bermuda	---	---	811	4,063
Bahamas	---	---	2,318	11,376
Jamaica	---	---	2,268	8,799
Barbados	3,216	11,297	6,246	23,109
Aruba	---	---	3,030	11,812
Chile	---	---	1,723	8,966
Germany	21,037	48,098	21,037	48,098
Singapore	---	---	1,315	6,364
Indonesia	---	---	33,638	92,520
China	8,373	21,448	15,889	40,700
Korean Republic	---	---	12,756	30,199
Japan	---	---	15,876	45,619
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TOTAL	77,322	157,569	305,913	705,255
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HONEY, NATURAL, NOT ELSEWHERE INDICATED OR SPECIFIED ----- FOREIGN MERCHANDISE				
Canada	---	---	1,712	2,727
Mexico	1,225	2,841	1,225	2,841
Costa Rica	---	---	18,600	31,620
Spain	186,002	360,840	186,002	360,840
Indonesia	---	---	37,200	37,200
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TOTAL	187,227	363,681	244,739	435,228
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U. S. IMPORTS OF HONEY BY COUNTRY, QUANTITY AND VALUE

COUNTRY	A P R I L 2003			YEAR TO DATE 2003		
	QUANTITY kilograms	CUSTOMS VALUE dollars	C.I.F. VALUE dollars	QUANTITY kilograms	CUSTOMS VALUE dollars	C.I.F. VALUE dollars
NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - WHITE						
Canada	459,027	1,623,623	1,638,730	1,934,174	6,663,823	6,719,631
Mexico	270,996	815,779	832,453	303,114	905,806	924,501
Peru	---	---	---	3,480	5,220	5,506
Chile	207,466	553,712	567,920	1,717,985	4,462,722	4,603,392
Brazil	98,600	227,708	237,295	887,377	2,171,471	2,287,008
Uruguay	125,265	376,619	387,968	296,721	831,174	850,137
Argentina	983,134	2,576,934	2,675,839	2,005,803	4,928,685	5,134,617
United Kingdom	2,489	6,499	6,763	7,815	22,081	22,908
Germany	---	---	---	18,000	36,360	37,800
Czech Republic	---	---	---	31,070	82,236	86,636
Hungary	---	---	---	36,000	91,620	94,500
Russia	---	---	---	348	2,018	2,305
Ukraine	18,000	20,822	23,490	34,128	49,690	55,341
Spain	304	2,073	2,120	304	2,073	2,120
Romania	19,202	47,813	50,104	67,476	172,935	181,887
Turkey	18,000	37,675	39,400	55,627	117,291	122,632
India	204,400	471,811	493,136	257,860	540,375	566,745
Pakistan	38,000	53,770	57,630	38,000	53,770	57,630
Vietnam	96,000	201,600	212,850	171,400	365,205	387,057
China, Mainland	887,373	1,421,788	1,513,777	1,510,145	2,270,356	2,410,269
Australia	19,868	58,956	59,371	19,868	58,956	59,371
New Zealand	800	4,347	4,600	800	4,347	4,600
TOTAL	3,448,924	8,501,529	8,803,446	9,397,495	23,838,314	24,616,593

NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - EXTRA LIGHT AMBER						
Canada	82,651	277,225	283,001	150,769	502,685	511,184
Mexico	38,603	119,669	122,060	108,704	306,624	313,338
Chile	97,373	294,777	398,366	328,082	887,001	922,082
Brazil	19,430	43,718	45,618	231,080	481,687	503,813
Uruguay	368,881	1,104,496	1,130,760	467,684	1,367,418	1,400,267
Argentina	100,023	258,887	267,722	269,380	651,072	678,637
Austria	---	---	---	460	3,507	3,574
Turkey	---	---	---	40,776	85,825	90,141
India	343,800	786,180	818,138	811,800	1,779,275	1,849,968
Vietnam	215,600	404,330	428,950	352,304	647,318	684,653
China	828,272	1,436,616	1,524,298	967,264	1,600,397	1,696,502
Australia	---	---	---	18,000	54,660	57,160
Egypt	---	---	---	100,000	165,000	175,155
TOTAL	2,094,633	4,725,898	4,928,913	3,846,303	8,532,469	8,886,474

IMPORTS continued
NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - - - LIGHT AMBER

Canada	6,238	21,307	21,338	18,394	59,668	59,895
Mexico	353,972	901,719	929,288	955,680	2,444,461	2,512,486
Dom. Republic	---	---	---	898	2,640	2,736
Peru	111,622	234,556	245,368	537,588	1,067,647	1,118,334
Chile	288,550	756,736	782,748	1,452,709	3,698,733	3,815,449
Brazil	252,683	588,983	617,919	1,169,532	2,726,841	2,853,785
Uruguay	870,098	2,622,187	2,711,304	1,730,475	4,702,724	4,846,075
Argentina	---	---	---	102,495	249,253	259,243
Denmark	---	---	---	12,096	51,710	55,560
France	---	---	---	1,040	4,420	4,634
Germany	17,937	36,981	38,206	81,826	235,834	305,365
Latvia	1,260	2,134	2,364	1,260	2,134	2,364
Ukraine	75,125	165,349	173,989	167,529	363,309	384,074
Moldova	---	---	---	90,360	188,547	195,448
Italy	1,324	3,065	3,361	2,213	5,233	5,745
Romania	---	---	---	39,387	794,967	832,982
Bulgaria	74,240	164,144	176,495	282,080	605,276	652,141
Turkey	59,565	135,509	137,536	664,736	1,508,386	1,605,035
India	465,893	991,195	1,057,070	839,233	1,732,798	1,856,212
Pakistan	---	---	---	636	2,044	2,273
Thailand	87,527	189,488	197,553	139,727	315,812	329,009
Vietnam	1,241,935	2,522,685	2,654,980	1,897,154	3,777,115	3,987,063
Malaysia	343,400	522,653	574,501	830,100	1,166,484	1,288,808
China	687,635	996,561	1,068,342	2,512,071	3,756,197	4,019,248
New Zealand	20,040	60,506	62,504	20,040	60,506	62,504
Burkina	---	---	---	19,095	38,190	41,356

TOTAL	4,959,044	10,915,758	11,454,866	13,868,354	29,560,929	21,097,824
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NATURAL HONEY, NOT PACKAGED FOR RETAIL SALE - NOT ELSEWHERE SPECIFIED OR INDICATED

Canada	34,543	87,715	90,481	76,941	184,928	189,048
Mexico	572,816	1,641,146	1,654,696	1,182,730	3,104,145	3,122,795
Dom. Republic	36,840	28,800	31,765	102,228	80,800	90,398
Peru	---	---	---	2,320	3,480	3,670
Chile	---	---	---	95,356	250,604	259,248
Brazil	39,440	97,991	101,497	354,184	829,401	862,491
Uruguay	19,473	55,309	57,302	58,402	148,573	152,683
Argentina	---	---	---	10,198	31,881	33,387
France	251	2,971	3,743	1,112	7,256	8,240
Austria	1,235	7,564	9,531	4,797	29,381	33,745
Switzerland	782	5,488	5,743	5,715	40,424	41,732989
Ukraine	---	---	---	5,046	8,075	9,140
Spain	6,283	20,895	22,395	6,283	20,895	22,395
Italy	3,386	7,879	8,667	3,716	11,259	12,350
Greece	---	---	---	393	2,680	2,853
India	111,600	257,672	297,605	204,600	465,062	549,995
Vietnam	---	---	---	96,060	170,612	181,770
Hong Kong	5,400	23,364	23,971	5,400	23,364	23,971
Taiwan	4,078	12,443	13,022	25,023	32,415	35,548
Australia	---	---	---	9,969	41,623	44,204

TOTAL	836,127	2,249,237	2,320,418	2,250,473	5,486,858	5,679,663
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SOURCE: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE,
FOREIGN TRADE DIVISION